

Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
April 4th, 2022 7:00pm
Old schoolhouse common & zoom

Members In attendance: Nick Seifert, Anne Miller, Ellen Keene, Wes Cate, Rich Phillips
Public: John Morris, Mike Xenakis

Agenda:

-Public Comments

-None

-Announcements

-Wes commented on the UN report issued today about the potential climate paths.

-Approval of Previous minutes

-Motioned seconded and approved.

-Agenda modifications

-Done.

-Business:

-Federal and state funds / Grant opportunities

-ARPA funds

-Rich mentioned that it has been determined this money has almost no restrictions on how it is spent.

-Rich suggests that the energy committee discuss and brainstorm ideas for how to spend this money.

-Brainstorming:

-Some ideas from last time:

-Bike path

-Solar roof on the picnic shelter

-Electric lawn care equipment (mowers, trimmers, etc.)

-Gas stove to electric

-OSC heating and cooling upgrade (i.e. heat pumps for air conditioners), this seems in-line with recovery and resilience efforts. Consider also ventilation for the OSC and if this would tie together. A ducted heat pump could work well for this.

-Emergency Dam Communication System

-Radar speed signs for the village.

-Heat pump hot water heater

-LED lighting in the OSC

-Twin Valley could benefit from an air-source walk-in freezer/cooler.

-No clear guidance yet from the Select Board on when they're going to start making decisions on this.

-Suggestions can be submitted here: ARPA@marshfieldvt.gov

-The Energy Committee should endorse and recommend some options during the May meeting.

-[Rural Energy Pilot Program](#)

-Nick discussed some of the criteria for this and that this program seems too involved for us to complete in time for the LOI due date of 4/19. At this time we are not going to pursue this.

-Community solar

-Rich, John and Ellen met as a subcommittee.

- People interested should contact Rich or John or Ellen and will get on the notification list for meetings or actions that are needed.
- One of their next steps is to figure out what people are interested. They're considering FPF, library postings, other town boards, Facebook, etc. The purpose of this would be to identify people.
- They are considering expanding this beyond Marshfield.
- Next step is to get the posting finalized and then send this out.
- There is some discussion to be had about if this work is conducted in the name of the Marshfield Energy Committee, or as an independent event.
- Some discussion here about pros and cons. The majority view was that this is not a town-related project, so this is not a good thing to put the name of the Energy Committee on.
- Rich does recommend mentioning this to the Select Board that they're working on this.
- There is also some discussion to be had about if this work should include reaching out to other neighboring towns.
- John put forth that this does need to involve other towns in order to reach the best threshold size per GMP.
- The decision above about removing the Energy Committee from this project makes this question moot.
- Marshfield Municipal solar
 - Nick to get on Select Board agenda for next time.
- Legislative updates
 - Rich gave an update on some of the state legislative work going on.
 - Lots of appropriations being put forward around vehicle efficiency. H552 is past the House, in the Senate, maybe in committee at the moment. Things are moving along well with this.
 - The clean heat standard is also going on, but work still needed.
- Plainfield updates
 - Bob provided a brief update by email. The main items are the bridge work is starting again, and the EV charging station will still be accessible.
- Agenda for May 2022**
 - Public Comment
 - Announcements
 - Approval of Previous minutes
 - Agenda Modifications
 - Business
 - Grant and other funding opportunities
 - Legislative updates
 - Community solar group updates
 - Marshfield Municipal solar
 - ARPA Funding recommendations (from energy committee to Select Board)
 - Plainfield updates

Join the Zoom meeting by phone: 1-301-715-8592

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3332233374?pwd=M0NJamtVRERVK2Z5TFdWRIJ5a1RUZz09>

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